

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1287-7 PCT/CON	SERIAL NO. Unassigned
	APPLICANT Mitaka et al.	CONFIRMATION NO. Unassigned
	FILING DATE Herewith	GROUP Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

			MITAKA, T. and MOCHIZUKI, Y., "Kankan Saibo no Isshu dearu Small Hepatocytes no Zoshoku to Siejukuka ni Oyobosu Hi Jisshitsu Saibo no Yakuwari", Proceedings of the Japanese Society of Pathology, 15 March, 1999 (15.03.99), Vol.88, No.1, page 299, 3P-MP1-23.
			MITAKA, T. et al., Reconstruction of Hepatic Organoid by Rat Small Hepatocytes and Hepatic Nonparenchymal Cells. Hepatology, January 1999, Vol. 29, No.1, pages 111 to 125.
			OHNO, Y. et al., Toxicity Evaluation by using primary cultured rate hepatocytes. The Journal of Toxicological Sciences, Vol.16, Supplement II, pages 121 to 124 (1991).
			HIROTA, K., and ONO, Y., "Shodai Baiyo Kansaibo ni okeru Kagaku Busshitsu Taisha", Eiyogaku Zasshi, Vol.46, No. 4, pages 155 to 162 (1998).
			MIKATA, T. et al., Growth and Maturation of Small Hepatocytes Isolated from Adult Rat Liver 1995; Vol. 214; 310-317.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.

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			MIKATA, T. et al.; Small Cell Colonies Appear in the Primary Culture of Adult Rat Hepatocytes in the Presence of Nicotinamide and Epidermal Growth Factor 1992; Hepatology Vol. 16; 440-447.

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OTHER REFERENCES

MITAKA, T. and MOCHIZUKI, Y., "Kankan Saibo no Isshu dearu Small Hepatocytes no Zoshoku to Siejukuka ni Oyobosu Hi Jisshitsu Saibo no Yakuwari", Proceedings of the Japanese Society of Pathology, 15 March, 1999 (15.03.99), Vol.88, No.1, page 299, 3P-MP1-23.

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Copies of each of these references are attached herewith. All of the references listed above are also listed on Applicants' Form PTO-1449 which is attached to this Information Disclosure Statement for the convenience of the Examiner.

The first four references listed above have been cited in a search report from a foreign patent office in the corresponding priority application PCT/JP02/03665. A copy of this search is enclosed.

The exact relevance of Abstract 3P-PMI-23 by Mikata and Mochizuki in Proceedings of the Japanese Society of Pathology, 15 March 1999, Vol. 88, No. 1, p.299 and the article in Eiyogaku Zasshi, Vol.46, by Hirota and Ohno are not known, except that these references have been cited in the International Search Report and are described in the Written Opinion.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Mitaka et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Application No.: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

Docket: 1285-7 PCT/CON

For: SMALL HEPATOCYTE-RICH
COLONIES, PROCESS FOR
PREPARING THE COLONIES,
PROCESS FOR MATURING THE
COLONIES INTO LIVER TISSUE
AND METHOD OF ESTIMATING
EFFECTS OF DRUG BY USING
MATURED SMALL
HEPATOCYTE-RICH COLONIES

Dated: October 1, 2003

Date October 1, 2003 Label No. EV261769101US

I hereby certify that on the date indicated above I
deposited this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service
and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner
of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by
EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE to ADDRESSEE "service."

Barbara Kemmlein

Name (Print)

(Signature)

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

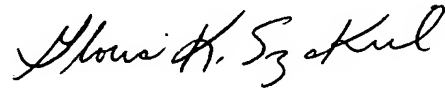
Sir:

In fulfillment of the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R.
§1.56, Applicants submit herewith the following Information Disclosure Statement in
accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the application and before
the issuance of the first Office Action, no fee is deemed necessary.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the above, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gloria K. Szakiel".

Gloria K. Szakiel
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